

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with James Halmilton on December 19, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 9, line 13, "region" has been changed to --half--.

In claim 12, line 13, after "canal," --and-- has been inserted; and

in lines ¹⁵~~14~~-17, "; and wherein the broadened portion includes an auditory canal tab configured to be disposed only in the upper region of the patient's auditory canal-- has been deleted.

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUYEN D. LE whose telephone number is (571) 272-7502. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, SINH TRAN can be reached on (571) 272-7564. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.